

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended): In a wireless communication system including a method for a plurality of user equipment mobile terminals (UEs) and a base station, which optimize radio resource utilization and adjust data rates wherein a subset of the UEs have pending downlink transmissions, a method of minimizing overhead signaling and optimizing radio resource utilization, the method comprising:

- (a) each UE of the UEs in the subset receiving from the base station a request to begin for a channel quality measurements measurement;
- (b) each UE of the UEs in the subset transmitting to the base station the results of the channel quality measurements measurement; and
- (c) the base station allocating radio resources used by the UEs in the subset in response to the results of the channel quality measurements; and
- (d) ~~each UE receiving a communication signal in accordance with said allocation.~~

2. (Currently amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

- (d) each of the UEs in the subset receiving a communication signal from the base station that wherein the communication signal indicates a particular coding rate, modulation type and at least one allocated time slot.

Claims 3 and 4 (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended): The method of ~~claim 4~~ claim 2 wherein each of the UEs in the subset prepare for reception of downlink data from the base station by setting reception parameters in accordance with the particular coding rate, the modulation type and the at least one allocated time slot indicated by the communication signal in response to said allocation.

Claims 6-10 (Canceled)

11. (New): The method of claim 1 wherein the base station determines which of the UEs in the subset will make the best use of radio resources.

12. (New): The method of claim 11 wherein the base station further determines specific time slots that the UEs in the subset should use to receive downlink data from the base station.

13. (New): The method of claim 1 wherein the request to begin channel quality measurements is sent by the base station to the UEs in the subset in response to the base station receiving blocks of downlink data.

14. (New): The method of claim 1 wherein the UEs that have pending downlink transmissions perform channel quality measurements until there are no longer pending downlink transmissions.

15. (New): In a wireless communication system including a plurality of user equipment mobile terminals (UEs) and a base station, wherein a subset of the UEs have pending downlink transmissions, a method of minimizing overhead signaling and optimizing radio resource utilization, the method comprising:

(a) each of the UEs in the subset receiving from the base station a request to begin channel quality measurements;

(b) each of the UEs in the subset transmitting to the base station the results of the channel quality measurements;

(c) the base station determining which of the UEs in the subset will make the best use of radio resources; and

(d) the base station sending downlink data only to the UEs determined in step (c).

16. (New): The method of claim 15 further comprising:

(e) each of the UEs determined in step (c) receiving a communication signal from the base station that indicates a particular coding rate, modulation type and at least one allocated time slot.

17. (New): The method of claim 16 wherein each of the UEs determined in step (c) prepare for reception of downlink data from the base station by setting reception parameters in accordance with the particular coding rate, the modulation type and the at least one allocated time slot indicated by the communication signal.

18. (New): The method of claim 17 wherein the base station further determines specific time slots that the UEs determined in step (c) should use to receive downlink data from the base station.

19. (New): The method of claim 15 wherein the request to begin channel quality measurements is sent by the base station to the UEs in the subset in response to the base station receiving blocks of downlink data.

20. (New): The method of claim 15 wherein the UEs that have pending downlink transmissions perform channel quality measurements until there are no longer pending downlink transmissions.

21. (New): A wireless communication system for minimizing overhead signaling and optimizing radio resource utilization, the system comprising:

- (a) a base station; and
- (b) a plurality of user equipment mobile terminals (UEs) station, wherein the base station sends a request to begin channel quality measurements only to a subset of the UEs that have pending downlink transmissions, the UEs in the subset transmit to the base station the results of the channel quality measurements, and the base station allocates radio resources used by the UEs in the subset in response to the results of the channel quality measurements.

22. (New): The system of claim 21 wherein each of the UEs in the subset receives a communication signal from the base station that indicates a particular coding rate, modulation type and at least one allocated time slot.

23. (New): The system of claim 22 wherein each of the UEs in the subset prepares for reception of downlink data from the base station by setting reception parameters in accordance with the particular coding rate, the modulation type and the at least one allocated time slot indicated by the communication signal.

24. (New): The system of claim 21 wherein the base station determines which of the UEs in the subset will make the best use of radio resources.

25. (New): The system of claim 21 wherein the base station further determines specific time slots that the UEs in the subset should use to receive downlink data from the base station.

26. (New): The system of claim 21 wherein the request to begin channel quality measurements is sent by the base station to the UEs in the subset in response to the base station receiving blocks of downlink data.

27. (New): The system of claim 21 wherein the UEs that have pending downlink transmissions perform channel quality measurements until there are no longer pending downlink transmissions.

28. (New): A wireless communication system for minimizing overhead signaling and optimizing radio resource utilization, the system comprising:

- (a) a base station; and

(b) a plurality of user equipment mobile terminals (UEs) station, wherein the base station sends a request to begin channel quality measurements only to a subset of the UEs that have pending downlink transmissions, the UEs in the subset transmit to the base station the results of the channel quality measurements, and the base station sends downlink data to those UEs in the subset that the base station determines will make the best use of radio resources.

29. (New): The system of claim 28 wherein each of the UEs that the base station determines will make the best use of radio resources receives a communication signal from the base station that indicates a particular coding rate, modulation type and at least one allocated time slot.

30. (New): The system of claim 29 wherein each of the UEs that the base station determines will make the best use of radio resources prepares for reception of downlink data from the base station by setting reception parameters in accordance with the particular coding rate, the modulation type and the at least one allocated time slot indicated by the communication signal.

31. (New): The system of claim 28 wherein the base station further determines specific time slots that the UEs that the base station determines will make the best use of radio resources should use to receive downlink data from the base station.

32. (New): The system of claim 28 wherein the request to begin channel quality measurements is sent by the base station to the UEs that the base

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station determines will make the best use of radio resources in response to the base station receiving blocks of downlink data.

33. (New): The system of claim 28 wherein the UEs that have pending downlink transmissions perform channel quality measurements until there are no longer pending downlink transmissions.